sons other than Chinese nationals would also be permitted the right of abode in Hong Kong under the provisions of the Declaration.

Regional Agreement on Nuclear Arms Race with Pakistan

640. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan Foreign Minister during a recent Seminar (September-October, 1987) conducted by the Pakistan Institute of Strategic Studies had put forward a suggestion for some sort of a regional agreement between India and Pakistan for arresting a nuclear arms race in this region;

(b) if so, what was the precise suggestion made by the Pak Foreign Minister; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The then Pakistan Foreign Minister made some suggestions of a bilateral and regional nature on the issue of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in South-Asia. His statement found wide publicity in our Press of the 2nd September, 1987.

(c) Government are of the view that there can be no bilateral or regional solution to the dangers of nuclear proliferation This is a global issue which can be only tackled globally. Moreover, the statement goes ill with Pakistan's single-minded drive to acquire nuclear weapons.

Supply of U.S. Missiles to Pakistan

641. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest U.S. decision to supply more A.I.M. 9 L Side winder missiles and submarine-launched Harpoon missiles to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up this matter with the U S.; and

(c) how does the latest supply to Pak affect our defence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have conveyed to the US Administration that the supply of sophisticated arms to Pakistan compels India to divert scarce resources from development to defence and leads to an unnecessary arms race in the subcontinent.

(c) India's defence preparedness remains high to face any threat to her security.

Agreement with U.S. for Transfer of Technology for LCA Project

642. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI S S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India have entered into an agreement with the U.S. to

make available its technology for the Indian Light Combat Aircraft project;

(b) whether it is a fact that both the engine and the U.S. technology are the same as Pakistan is getting from the U.S. under an agreement between the two countries; and

(c) whether Pakistan is likely to be familiar with our Light Combat Aircraft, thus affecting its utility and fighting power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No confirmed information about the U.S.—Pak Defence Aircraft Cooperation Programme is available.

(c) This question does not arise.

Reimbursement of Tuition Fees

643. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2138 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th August, 1987 and state:

(a) whether orders regarding reimbursement of tuition fees consequent upon revision of pay scales as per recommendation of Fourth Central Pay Commission in respect of Central Government employees have since been issued; if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when these are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government's decisions on the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission in this behalf are in the process of finalisation after taking into account the views expressed by the Staff Side of the National Council (JCM).

Change in the U.S. Attitude towards Pakistan

644. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister had observed some change of attitude of the U.S. Government with regard to their policy towards Pakistan during his recent visit to the U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, what are the details of discussions the Prime Minister had with Mr. Reagan and Mr. Bush during the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) While the basic parameters of US policy towards Pakistan remain unchanged, there seems to be a greater realization in the US of the gravity of the situation arising from Pakistan's nuclear weapons oriented programme.

(b) The Prime Minister reiterated India's serious concern regarding the attempts by Pakistan to acquire nuclear weapons.

Dowry by I.A.S. Officers

645. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IAS officers get married at a very high rate of dowries;